



MISSION-CRITICAL PROFILE

Name: Jeff Madden

Organization: Zone 7 Water Agency

Job Category (Check one below):

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Treatment | <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic Maintenance Technician/ Instrument Technician |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Distribution | <input type="checkbox"/> Electrician/Electrical Line Worker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater Treatment | <input type="checkbox"/> Machinist/Mechanic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater Distribution | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

1. Please describe the work you do:

Water Plant Operator III at Zone 7 water agency. I assist in the training of Operator I's and II's responsible for the efficient operation and routine maintenance of water treatment plants, well field and/or distribution systems in conjunction with the ground water demineralization facility.

2. What combination of education, vocational training, apprenticeship, experience, and/or skill did you obtain in order to be qualified and selected for your job?

There are a few routes to obtain the skill and vocational certifications needed to be selected. My personal road involved entering a vocational school, completing correspondence trade books, and volunteering at a local water facility to obtain required hours needed for state certification.

3. What do you like best about your job?

I enjoy the diverse technology and the challenge each imposes.

4. Please tell us about the projects and activities you have enjoyed most in your work in the wastewater industry, and what made them rewarding.

I enjoy diagnosing and solving problems. Such as, at our ground water demineralization facility interpreting samples to conclude bad seals and performance between membranes. At the treatment facilities observing source water changes and making appropriate dose changes based on Jar tests.

5. What qualities and capabilities are needed in order for a person in your area of expertise to be successful in the water/wastewater industry?

I think one of many traits an operator needs is a good base of the mechanics, hydraulics, and equipment of a water plant. This understanding will aid in trouble shooting and correcting issues that arise from time to time. There instances when an operator will be by himself and will need to make quick appropriate decisions during emergency situations.

6. Do you have any advice for an individual who is considering pursuing a career in your field in the water/wastewater industry?

Start with a tour of your local water plant. Ask questions, and if interested try to volunteer. Take the Sacramento State Office of water programs drinking water correspondence books. You will need these CEU' to take the state exam. Good luck.